

REMARKS

Claims 29-31, 33-35, 42-56 are presented for consideration, with Claims 29-31, 33-35 and 54-56 being independent.

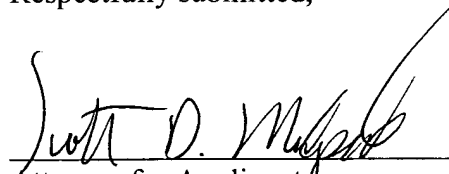
Initially, Applicant notes with appreciation that Claims 29-31, 33-35 and 42-56 are allowed.

Claims 28, 36 and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ono '943, and Claims 38-41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ono '943 in view of Ono '675. Without conceding the propriety of these rejections, Claims 28 and 36-41 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. These rejections are therefore deemed to be moot and should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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